

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended): System ~~for the optically simply detectable and unambiguously assignable identification of data carriers, valuable documents and/or packs and the like,~~ characterized in that the data carrier, the valuable document and/or the pack is provided with comprising:

_____ at least one of a data carrier, valuable document and pack, and
_____ a coating which, by means of its which has a coloration or by means of the a colour effect
produced and/or by means of its dimension and/or situation and/or its structure, permits an
unambiguous assignment of the data carrier, of the valuable document and/or of the pack to a
defined property,

wherein the coating comprises:

_____ a first full-area or partial metal layer having a first coloration or colour effect, and
wherein a surface relief structure including a diffraction grating and/or a hologram is
disposed on this metal layer, wherein the surface relief structure is fully or partially metallized
and
_____ a second full-area or partial metal layer disposed on this surface relief structure, wherein
the second full-area or partial metal layer has a second coloration or a colour effect which is
different from the first coloration or colour effect.

2. (Currently amended): Security element for application to and/or for at least partial embedding in data carriers, valuable documents and/or packs ~~and the like,~~

~~_____ wherein the security element is provided with, comprising:~~

~~_____ a substrate, and~~

~~_____ a coating as security feature which, by means of its which has a coloration or by means of the a colour effect produced and/or by means of its dimension and/or situation and/or its structure, permits an unambiguous assignment of the data carrier, of the valuable document and/or of the pack to a defined property,~~

~~wherein the coating comprises:~~

~~_____ a first full-area or partial metal layer having a first coloration or colour effect, and~~

~~_____ wherein a surface relief structure including a diffraction grating and/or a hologram is disposed on this metal layer, wherein the surface relief structure is fully or partially metallized and~~

~~_____ a second full-area or partial metal layer disposed on this surface relief structure, wherein the second full-area or partial metal layer has a second coloration or colour effect which is different from the first coloration or colour effect.~~

3. (Currently amended): ~~Security elements~~ Security element according to Claim 2, characterized in that the coating is applied by means of a PVD or CVD process.

4. (Currently amended): ~~Security elements~~Security element according to Claim 2, characterized in that the coating consists of metals, their compounds or their alloys.

5. (Currently amended): ~~Security elements~~Security element according to Claim 2, characterized in that the coating ~~consists of~~comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of Al, Cu, Fe, Ag, Au, Cr, Ni, Zn, Cd, Bi, TiO₂, Cr oxides, ZnS, ITO, Bi oxide, ATO, FTO, ZnO, Al₂O₃, Zn chromate, Fe oxides, CuO, Cu-Al alloys, Cu-Zn alloys, iron alloys, steel, colour pigments, azurite ~~or malachite and the like~~ and malachite.

6. (Currently amended): ~~Security elements~~Security element according to Claim 2, characterized in that the ~~security elements have~~ security element has at least one of a further functional ~~and/or layer and a decorative layers layer~~.

7. (Currently amended): ~~Security elements~~Security element according to Claim 6, characterized in that ~~they the security element additionally have one or more~~ has at least one of an electrically conductive layers and/or layers layer, a layer with magnetic properties and/or layers, a layer with structures active in diffraction and/or layers and a layer with positive or negative printing.

8. (Currently amended): ~~Security elements~~ Security element according to Claim 2, characterized in that ~~they are~~ the security element is provided with a protective varnish layer on one or both sides.

9. (Currently amended): ~~Security elements~~ Security element according to Claim 8, characterized in that the protective varnish layer is pigmented.

10. (Currently amended): ~~Security elements~~ Security element according to Claim 2, characterized in that the ~~security elements are~~ security element is laminated to ~~one or more at least one~~ carrier substrate(s) ~~which has/have the possibly functional and/or decorative layers~~ substrate.

11. (Currently amended): ~~Security elements~~ Security element according to Claim 10, characterized in that the security element is laminated to the at least one carrier substrate using a lamination adhesive which is pigmented.

12. (Currently amended): ~~Security elements~~ Security element according to Claim 2, characterized in that the ~~security elements are~~ security element is provided on one or both sides with a hot-melt or cold-seal adhesive or a self-adhesive coating.

13. (Currently amended): ~~Security elements~~ Security element according to Claim 12, characterized in that the hot-melt or cold-seal adhesive or the self-adhesive coating is pigmented.

14. (Previously presented): Thin sheet material, characterized in that it is provided with a coating ~~which, by means of its having a coloration or by means of the a colour effect produced and/or by means of its dimension and/or situation and/or its structure, permits an unambiguous assignment to a defined property,~~

wherein the coating comprises;

_____ a first full-area or partial metal layer having a first coloration or colour effect, and

~~wherein a surface relief structure including a diffraction grating and/or a hologram is disposed on this metal layer, wherein the surface relief structure is fully or partially metallized~~
and

_____ a second full-area or partial metal layer disposed on this surface relief structure, wherein the second full-area or partial metal layer has a second coloration or a colour effect which is different from the first coloration or colour effect.

15. (Original): Thin sheet material according to Claim 14, characterized in that the coating is applied by means of a PVD or CVD process.

16. (Previously presented): Thin sheet material according to Claim 14, characterized in that the coating consists of metals, their compounds or their alloys.

17. (Currently amended): Thin sheet material according to Claim 16, characterized in that the coating ~~consists of~~ comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of Al, Cu, Fe, Ag, Au, Cr, Ni, Zn, Cd, Bi, TiO₂, Cr oxides, ZnS, ITO, Bi oxide, ATO, FTO, ZnO, Al₂O₃, Zn chromate, Fe oxides, CuO, Cu-Al alloys, Cu-Zn alloys, iron alloys, steel, colour pigments, azurite ~~or malachite and the like~~ and malachite.

18. (Currently amended): Thin sheet material according to Claim 14, characterized in that the thin sheet material has at least one of a further functional ~~and/or layer and a decorative layers~~ layer.

19. (Previously presented): Thin sheet material according to Claim 18, characterized in that the thin sheet material additionally ~~have one or more~~ has at least one of an electrically conductive ~~layers and/or layers~~ layer, a layer with magnetic properties ~~and/or layers, a layer~~ with structures active in diffraction ~~and/or layers~~ and a layer with positive or negative printing.

20. (Previously presented): Thin sheet material according to Claim 14, characterized in that the thin sheet material is provided with a protective varnish layer on one or both sides.

21. (Original): Thin sheet material according to Claims 20, characterized in that the protective varnish layer is pigmented.

22. (Currently amended): Thin sheet material according to Claim 14, characterized in that the thin sheet material is laminated to ~~one or more at least one~~ carrier substrate(s), ~~which possibly has/have functional and/or decorative layers~~ substrate.

23. (Currently amended): Thin sheet material according to Claim 22, characterized in that the security element is laminated to the at least one carrier substrate using a lamination adhesive which is pigmented.

24. (Previously presented): Thin sheet material according to Claim 14, characterized in that the thin sheet material is provided on one or both sides with a hot-melt or cold-seal adhesive or a self-adhesive coating.

25. (Currently amended): Thin sheet material according to Claim 24, characterized in that the hot-melt or cold-seal adhesive or the self-adhesive coating is pigmented.

26. (Previously presented): Valuable documents, packs and the like which have a security element according to Claim 2.

27. (Currently amended): Data carrier comprising the ~~security elements~~ security element according to Claim 2.

28. (Previously presented): Data carrier comprising the thin sheet material according to Claim 14.

29. (Currently amended): System according to Claim 1, which is a system for colour identification ~~of the value or other properties of~~ at least one of a valuable document, ~~of a product and/or of~~ and a pack.

30. (Currently amended): ~~Valuable documents, packs and the like which have a system~~
System according to Claim 1, which is a valuable document or pack.

31. (New): Security element according to Claim 10, characterized in that the at least one carrier substrate has at least one of a functional and a decorative layer.

32. (New): Security element according to Claim 22, characterized in that the carrier substrate has at least one of a functional and a decorative layer.

33. (New): System according to claim 1, wherein the first full-area or partial metal layer is an electrically conductive layer.

34. (New): Security element according to claim 2, wherein the first full-area or partial metal layer is an electrically conductive layer.

35. (New): Thin sheet material according to claim 14, wherein the first full-area or partial metal layer is an electrically conductive layer.